DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN: It was Rs. 95 crores. ...(*Interruptions*)... the outlay is Rs. 90 crores. ...(*Interruptions*)...It has been given Rs. 24.98 crores upto 1999-2000 ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: That is for a particular item. ...(*Interruptions*)...An amount of Rs.94 crores was sought for to set up five additional repair units. ...(*Interruptions*)...

My question is, for the overall modernisaiton, upgradation and augmentation how much amount they have sought for from the Government of India?

DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN: We have already told the Cochin Shipyard that they should raise resources through their own methods and the Government will not give anything for the shiplift Scheme of the Cochin Shipyard. The Plan outlay has been fixed at Rs.90 crores. And they were, so far, given Rs.24.98 crores.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, the Cochin Shipyard was initially meant for building ships. Thereafter, you may be surprised to know, the Minsitry of Surface Transport fixed the price for shipbuilding. They were not given any support or subsidy; the Ministry never allowed the Cochin Shipyard to function on a commercial basis. So, the Cochin Shipyard went into red. Since they shifted over to the repairing business, they made a little profit. My question is this. I want to know whether the Government will facilitate more infrastructure availability there for three ships to work at a time, including shipbuilding and repair. Then only the Cochin Shipyard can flourish into a profitable industry. Give them freedom. Cut it out from your control. Will the Minister look into this aspect of facilitating more infrastructure for three ships to work at a time as well as ship building? At a time, three orders must be there. Shipbuilding should be there and also make repairs a part of it. Will the Minister look into this scheme and implement it?

DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN: We are looking into it.

Renovation and Beautification of the Red Fort

*264. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the plan drawn up recently for renovation and beautification of the Red Fort in Delhi;

(b) whether entry fee to the Fort is also proposed to be increased; and

(c) if so, the detials thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) the maintenance, conservation and preservation of the centrally protected monuments of the ASI in Red Fort is a continuous ASI has also drawn up a conceptual plan for improving the structural conservation of the protected monument.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Sir, the very intention of my putting the question is that I wanted to know what action plan has been undertaken by the Ministry. But the hon. Minister has not given those details. Sir, the Red Fort, the India's symbolic seat of power, has lost its glory and we find hundreds of busses parked outside the Fort; besides, there are circus shows, Sunday Kabari bazaar, etc., giving a shabby look to the Fort, and the visitors who go there are very much disappointed. Will the Government propose to take any steps for revival of the original glory of the Fort as it was in the pre-1857 days, before the British and also make drastic changes so that the movement of visitors is regulated properly and the Mughal Gardens are laid both inside and outside the Fort for beautification.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I request the hon. Member to appreciate the problem we are facing in the upgradation and beautification of the Red Fort. Out of the total area of 107.06 acres, including the walls and gates, 83.81 acres are under direct control of the Ministry of Defence and only 23.25 acres are under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India. Because of this multiplicity of control-some area is under the control of the Ministry of Defence, some area is under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India and some area is under the control of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi-we have not been able to come out with a comprehensive plan. Despite this, the Archaeological Survey of India has come out with a 'concept paper' with a project cost of Rs. 10 crores spend over seven years. We are going to implement it for the upgradation and beautification of the Fort.

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Sir, my second supplementary is this. About 20 lakh people visit the Fort every year but the Fort is being neglected, as the hon. Minister has said, since eight Government agencies are controlling it, viz. the Archaeological Survey of India, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the Delhi Administration, the Delhi Traffic Police, the C.P.W.D., the I.T.D.C., the Indian Army and the Indian Railways. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken for consolidating the responsibilities and for arranging a systematic tour of the visitors to the entire complex, reminding our old culture and the beauty of the Fort.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Actually, this problem is being considered right from 1974. In 1974, the then Prime Minister of the country, Smt. Indira Gandhi, wrote a letter to the Cabinet Secretary saying that the Government should taken action to shift the Indian Army which is there in the Red Fort. The presence of the Indian Army in 75 per cent of the total area of the Red Fort is causing problems. Now, a Public Interest Litigation is pending before the Delhi High Court. The A.S.I. is going to file an affidavit, praying the court, joining the issue, that we also want the Indian Army to be evacuated from the Red Fort area for its better upkeep. I will be holding discussions with the Defence Minister in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

New water management policy

†*265. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to declare a new water policy for management of water in the Country; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be declared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The National Water Board has reviewed the existing National Water Policy 1987, and formulated an updated and revised draft National Water Policy for the development of Water Resources in the country. Declaration of the new National Water Policy depends on its adoption by the National Water Resources Council.

Regional Rural Banks in Meghalaya

*266 SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the Regional Rural Banks functioning at present in Meghalaya, alongwith their locations;

(b) the details of the loan facilities provided by the banks to all the needy farmers and industrialists of the State during the last three years, year-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.